

A Call for Scholarly Inclusivity

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In response to a heightened awareness of systemic racism against Black Americans, numerous public administration academic associations (e.g., PMRA) have called for a discipline-wide research agenda that further examines social justice, specifically racism, inequality, and social equity. This research agenda is necessary—but insufficient—in ensuring greater inclusion of Black scholars in the discipline. Scholarly inclusivity in public administration can only be achieved when at least two ideals are systematically pursued: 1) the study of the interface between public administration and Black people occupies a consequential space in the field's research landscape and 2) Black scholars are professionally supported in their quest to make authentic scholarly contributions to the field that include, but not limited to, inroads in research. These two ideals are often conflated; however, they are not one and the same. Furthermore, the commitment to the first ideal is promising, while that which drives the latter ideal merits greater investment. If the discipline is not intentional and holistic in its quest for social justice, then *being* a Black scholar will be met with implicit resistance while *studying* the issues at the nexus of public administration and Black people will result in praise.

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